

1. ~~said step of exhausting the washed gas is performed after removing at least one of SO_x and NO_x accompanying water from said washed gas.~~

2. (Amended) A method of treating perfluorocompound (PFC) gas comprising the steps of:
decomposing at least one of SF₆ and NF₃ present in the PFC gas,
washing the gas generated by the decomposition, and
exhausting the washed gas, wherein
said step of exhausting the washed gas is performed after removing at least one of SO_x and NO_x accompanying water, which are decomposition products of PFC, from said washed gas.

3. (Amended) A method of treating perfluorocompound (PFC) gas comprising the steps of:
decomposing at least one of SF₆ and NF₃ present in the PFC gas by any method selected from the group consisting of hydrolysis, oxidation decomposition, combustion, and thermal decomposition,
washing the gas generated by said decomposition by making said gas contact with at least one of water and an aqueous alkaline solution, and

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exhausting the washed gas, wherein
said step of exhausting the washed gas is performed after
removing at least one of SO_x and NO_x accompanying water, which
are decomposition products of said at least one of SF_6 and NF_3 ,
from said washed gas.

4. (Amended) A method of treating perfluorocompound
(PFC) gas comprising the steps of:

decomposing at least one of SF_6 and NF_3 present in the PFC
gas by diluting said at least one of SF_6 and NF_3 with nitrogen,
and contacting the diluted gas with a decomposition catalyst
in the presence of air and water,

washing the gas generated by said decomposition by making
said gas contact with at least one of water and an aqueous
alkaline solution, and

exhausting the washed gas, wherein
said step of exhausting the washed gas is performed after
removing at least one of SO_x and NO_x accompanying water, which
are decomposition products of said at least one of SF_6 and NF_3 ,
from said washed gas.